

Kitty Hawk Woods Coastal Reserve Local Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, December 13, 2011, 3 – 5 pm Kitty Hawk Town Hall

Attendance

LAC Members	Affiliation/Interest	<u>Present</u>
Mr. Bill Harris	No	No
Officer Steve Jarvis	NC Wildlife Resources Commission, Enforcement	Represented by Brandon Joyner, WRC
Mr. Frank Jennings	DCM, District Manager	Represented by Ron Renaldi, DCM
Mr. Aaron McCall	The Nature Conservancy	Yes
Mr. John McCord	UNC Coastal Studies Institute	No
Mr. Curtis Pentecost	Community Member	No
Mayor Clifton Perry	Town of Kitty Hawk	Yes
Mr. Jeff Pruitt	Community Member	Yes
Councilman Richard Reid	Town of Kitty Hawk	Yes
Ranger Rob Shackelford	NC Division of Forest Resources	No
Chief David Ward	Town of Kitty Hawk	Yes
<u>Others</u>		
Gary Perry	Town of Kitty Hawk	Yes
Wesley Robey	Adjacent Property Owner	Yes
Rebecca Ellin	DCM, Reserve Manager	Yes
Woody Webster	DCM, Buckridge Manager	Yes
Claudia Jones	DCM, Northern Sites Manager	Yes

<u>Reserve Update – Rebecca Ellin</u>

Staffing News

- Dr. Braxton Davis is the new Director of the N.C. Division of Coastal Management as of December 1, 2011. Dr. Davis was previously the Director of Policy and Planning Division within South Carolina's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management.
- Dr. Bo Dame resigned from the Northern Sites Manager position in January 2011. Claudia Jones
 is currently serving as the temporary Northern Sites Manager while we work to fill the position
 permanently.
- Mr. Jason Dail moved from the Stewardship and Education Specialist position with the Reserve to a field representative position with the Division in Wilmington Regional office.
- The GIS Specialist position was impacted by the budget reductions in 2011 and Ms. Jacquie Ott is no longer working for the program.
- Mr. Scott Kucera resigned from the Education Coordinator position in July 2011. The vacant position was advertised in September.

Rules and Policies Review Process

The working draft rule language is under review within the Division. Next steps include refining the draft language internally and seeking input from the following entities: the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Local Advisory Committees (LACs), the N.C. Coastal Resources Commission, and a series of public meetings. The Reserve anticipates bringing draft language to the LACs in 2012.

Local Advisory Committee Operating Procedures Document

The Reserve is finalizing the operating procedures document with an anticipated publication date of February 2012. The document contains a brief introduction to the Reserve program and outlines the purpose and roles of the committees, committee composition, member selection and responsibilities, terms of service, and meeting operations. The finalized document will be emailed to Local Advisory Committee members and posted on the Reserve website. The Reserve will hold an application period for community member and organizations membership on the committee in March 2012.

<u>Site Update – Claudia Jones</u>

- Hurricane Irene flooded the Reserve office. Town of Kitty Hawk Public Works shared their space with Reserve staff while the office was being remodeled; they also helped clear trees off of trails. Staff is very appreciative of their help.
- The Reserve received an education grant from the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program (APNEP) to conduct education and teacher workshops. Two of the programs were in Kitty Hawk, a kayak trip from the Bob Perry boat ramp through the Reserve and a marsh/estuary exploration in Kitty Hawk Bay.
- Rachael Clark, a botany student from NC State finished her plant survey work in Kitty
 Hawk Woods. She is hoping to get the work published in book form in the coming year.
 The format will be similar to the recently published book for Nags Head Woods by her
 major professor, Alexander Krings.
- Purchase of the Hard tract was finalized at the end of 2010. A fire around Thanksgiving burned down one of the outbuildings on the property.
- There were 147 registered hunters for Kitty Hawk Woods for the 2010-2011 season.

- There are new welcome signs that have been put up in the Reserve and by the Reserve office.
- There are new brochures for Kitty Hawk Woods which will be distributed to interested parties.

Roundtable and Other Comments

- Mayor Perry expressed a desire for the Town to have input into the LAC nomination process. He also wants to ensure that the new Reserve Rules not be applied to all sites like a cookie cutter if certain aspects don't apply.
- Chief Ward brought up two issues that occurred on Reserve property in the past year –
 the fire on the Hard tract and a homicide that also took place on Reserve property.
 Investigations are ongoing in both cases.
- Brandon Joyner reported that there is no WRC enforcement officer in Dare Co. right now. It will be at least 2013 before an officer can be hired and trained.
- The committee agreed that they would meet twice a year.

Meeting Follow Up

Claudia Jones will contact committee members regarding a spring and a fall meeting date.